

Ravalli County Commissioners 214 South 4th Street, Suite A Hamilton, MT 59840

January 23, 2008

Office on Violence Against Women Department of Justice 800 K Street, NW, Suite 920 Washington, DC 20530

RE: Application OVW-2008-1731 CFDA Number 16.590

Dear Director:

As Chief Executive Officer of Ravalli County, I submit this letter to certify to the following:

- the laws or official policies of Ravalli County encourage or mandate arrests of domestic violence offenders based on probable cause that an offense has been committed;
- 2) the laws or official policies of Ravalli County encourage or mandate arrests of domestic violence offenders who violate the terms of a valid and outstanding protection order;
- 3) the laws, policies, or practices and the training programs of Ravalli County discourage dual arrests of offender and victim;
- the laws, policies, or practices of Ravalli County prohibit issuance of mutual restraining orders of protection except in cases where both spouses file a claim and the court makes detailed findings of fact indicating that both spouses acted primarily as aggressors and that neither spouse acted primarily in self-defense; and

- the laws, policies, and practices of Ravalli County do not require, in connection with the prosecution of any misdemeanor or felony domestic violence offense, or in connection with the filing, issuance, registration, or service of a protection order, or a petition for a protection order, to protect a victim of domestic violence, stalking, or sexual assault, that the victim bear the costs associated with the filing of criminal charges against the offender, or the costs associated with the filing, issuance registration, or service of a warrant protection order, petition for a protection order, or witness subpoena, whether issued inside or outside the State, tribal, or local jurisdiction;
- 6) the laws, policies or practices of Ravalli County will ensure, not later than January 5, 2009 that:
 - A) no law enforcement officer, prosecuting officer or other governmental official shall ask or require an adult, youth, or child victim of a sex offense as defined under Federal, tribal, State, territorial, or local law to submit to a polygraph examination or other truth telling device as a condition for proceeding with the investigation of such as offense; and
 - B) the refusal of a victim to submit to an examination described in subparagraph (A) shall not prevent the investigation of the offense.

Sincerely,

Carlotta Grandstaff, Chief Executive Officer